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FACSIMILE

DATE:

January 27, 2003

SERIAL NO.

09/531,102

TO:

Sent By: Crawford PLLC;

Examiner Wasylchak

FROM:

Robert J. Crawford

FAX NO.:

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(703) 872-9327 (703) 308-2848

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Office Action Response

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<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Giannini et al.

Examiner:

Wasylchak, S.

Serial No.:

09/531,102

Group Art Unit:

3624

Filed:

March 17, 2000

Docket No.:

JARB.004PA

Title:

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby ecrtifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being sent via facsimile to 703-872-9327, attention Examiner Wasylchak, on January 27, 2003.

By: or m. Muchal

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OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

JAN 2 8 2003

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Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated December 18, 2002, please consider the following remarks.

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action dated December 18, 2002, indicated that claims 1, 2, 5-9 and 12-16 stand rejected under §103(a) as being anticipated by *Kagami et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,974,400) and further in view of *Graf et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,349,300); and claims 3, 4, 10